

Recorded water levels in this bulletin are derived from a representative network of water level gages on each lake (see cover [map](#)). Providers of these data are the National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, and the Marine Environmental Data Service, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada. The Detroit District, Corps of Engineers and Environment Canada derive historic and projected lake levels under the auspices of the Coordinating Committee on Great Lakes Basic Hydraulic and Hydrologic Data.

This bulletin is produced monthly as a public service. Tables of possible storm-induced rises at key locations on the Great Lakes are available on request. The Corps also publishes the "Great Lakes, Connecting Channels and St. Lawrence River Water Levels and Depths," weekly, which provides a forecast of depths in the connecting rivers between the Great Lakes and the International Section of the St. Lawrence River. These publications can be obtained free of charge by writing to the address shown on the front cover, or by calling (313) 226-6441. Notices of change of address should include the name of the publication(s). The Internet address <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/gllh> also contains this information.

Great Lakes Basin Hydrology March 2011

Overall, the Great Lakes basin experienced above average precipitation during the month of March. The Lake Superior basin continues to experience relatively dry weather and only received 57% of average precipitation over the last month. Lakes Michigan-Huron, Erie, and Ontario received 118%, 137%, and 129% of average precipitation for March, respectively. During the past 12 months, precipitation has been below average for Lake Superior, near average for Lakes Michigan-Huron, and above average for Lakes Erie and Ontario. Outflows from Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron were below average in March while the outflows from Lakes Erie and Ontario were near average. The tables below list March precipitation, water supply, and outflow information for the entire Great Lakes basin.

Comparison of March monthly mean water levels to long-term (1918-2010) average shows Lakes Superior, Michigan-Huron, St. Clair, Erie and Ontario were 14, 20, 9, 2 and 3 inches below average, respectively.

PRECIPITATION (INCHES)								
BASIN	March				12-Month Comparison			
	2011	Average (1900-2008)	Diff.	% of Average	Average Last 12 months	Average (1900-2008)	Diff.	% of Average
Superior	0.99	1.73	-0.74	57	29.19	30.51	-1.32	96
Michigan-Huron	2.54	2.15	0.39	118	32.67	32.44	0.23	101
Erie	3.78	2.75	1.03	137	39.65	35.40	4.25	112
Ontario	3.44	2.67	0.77	129	37.04	35.71	1.33	104
Great Lakes	2.39	2.17	0.22	110	32.78	32.64	0.14	100

Lake	March WATER SUPPLIES ¹ (cfs)		March OUTFLOW ² (cfs)	
	2011	Average ⁴ (1900-2008)	2011	Average ³ (1900-2008)
Superior	4,000	46,000	52,000	66,000
Michigan-Huron	210,000	183,000	164,000	172,000
Erie	134,000	72,000	198,000	197,000
Ontario	122,000	75,000	241,000	238,000

Notes: Values (excluding averages) are based on preliminary computations. CFS denotes cubic feet per second.

¹ Negative water supply denotes evaporation from lake exceeded runoff from local basin.

² Does not include diversions.

³ St Lawrence River average outflow is based on period of record 1900-2005

⁴ Lake Ontario average water supply based on 1900-1989